

Smart Snacks Information for FCS Educators

What is Smart Snacks in School?

Federal Requirement for all foods and beverages sold outside the National School Lunch Program and Breakfast Programs during the school day (defined as the time before school, during school, and 30 minutes after). This includes fundraisers, school stores, vending machines, a la carte, etc.

Overview of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards

How does this effect fundraisers or vending machines operated by school groups?

During the school day, only foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snack standards or non-food/beverage items can be sold to students, no matter who is selling the items.

What can school groups sell to students during the school day?

If the item being sold is a non-food/beverage item or a food/beverage item that meets the Smart Snacks standards, it can be sold at any time. Organizations planning fundraisers should work with school administration before initiating a fundraiser to ensure compliance with the Local Wellness Policy, Smart Snacks Standards, and any other local polices that may be in place.

What if the food and beverages to be sold do not meet the standards?

Then the items cannot be sold to students on campus during the school day. The standards do not apply during non-school hours, on weekends, or at off-campus fundraising events.

Does this mean no more frozen pizza sales or cookie dough?

Sale of pre-ordered items such as pizza and cookie dough, are intended for consumption outside of the school and are allowed to be sold during the school day. Students can take orders for these types of items and deliver them during the school day.

What about "from scratch" items?

If a student group would like to make items using a recipe to sell to students during the school day, then the recipe needs to be analyzed to ensure it meets Smart Snacks nutrition standards. My Recipe Super Tracker from USDA is a tool that can be utilized to analyze recipes. In addition, lowa Team Nutrition has developed and complied existing Smart Snacks Approved Recipes that may be useful.

What foods and beverages can school groups sell to students through fundraisers, school stores, and vending machines during the school day?

Contact the Food Service Director for ideas of food and beverage items to sell. Foodservice has access to a variety of products that meet the Smart Snack standards that are not sold in grocery stores or wholesale club stores.